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GANDHI ASSASSINATION: 20 SUSPECTS ARRESTED

SUPERSONIC ROCKET

Successful New U.S. Invention

Washington, Feb. 2.—The U.S. Navy said today that a new ram jet engine—the largest ever to be flown—has gone "far into the supersonic" speed range.

The new "flying stovepipe" has power "considerably in excess" of the 14,000 horse-power of the largest four-engine plane, the naval announcement said.

This was the first formal announcement the Navy has made on the ram jet engine developments since it sent a small model at 1,500 m.p.h. in June, 1946.

Pound for pound the new model delivers 27 times the power of the best conventional engine of 5,000 horse power. The new ram jet design is shaped like a stovepipe.

The Navy said the model has completed a successful test flight at the naval ordnance station at Inyokern, California. It is intended ultimately to power guided missiles.

Because it has no moving parts it can be produced rapidly and cheaply, and is especially suitable for expendable missiles.

A rocket has to be used to boost the ram jet to supersonic speeds. The rocket then drops off and the ram jet continues under its own power.—United Press.

MOTORBOAT ATTACKED

Smyrna, Feb. 1.—An armed motorboat of unknown nationality attacked the Turkish motorboat Mesut, off Samos Island, in the Aegean Sea, it was reported here today.

The armed boat chased the Mesut and boarded her near the Turkish shore. Turkish Coast Guard opened fire and the motorboat escaped to sea.

It was believed here that the unknown boat was manned by Greek partisans.—Reuter.

Barbara Hutton Is Much Better

Berne, Feb. 1.—Hospital attendants said tonight that the condition of Princess Barbara Hutton Troubetzkoy, 35-year-old heiress, had taken an "extraordinary change for the better" and that she was no longer in any danger.

Barbara had been gravely ill since an abdominal operation eight days ago. She suffered a relapse but rallied after a second, less serious operation was performed yesterday.—United Press.

EDITORIAL

Infant Welfare Centres

THE handicaps under which the women doctors and their assistant nurses are working in the Colony's three infant welfare centres evokes sympathy, not untinged with indignation. Harriet Harvey, in her eyewitness report published in the Telegraph last Saturday made these relevant points: (1) In two of the three centres the rooms are cold, dirty and bare, and in the Western centre there is no heat either in the doctor's or the nurses' treatment rooms, where a baby must often be entirely unclothed. (2) The centres are understaffed and the demand for service so heavy that there is virtually no time to give much-needed preventive instruction. The result is that practically all the work is clinical—described by one doctor as nothing more than stop-gap aid. (3) Three welfare centres are wholly insufficient to improve the health standards of the thousands of ignorant mothers who seek attention for themselves and their babies. It is not with intention of belittling any effort designed to improve the health and happiness of the community that we direct criticism at the Medical Department concerning the infant welfare centres. The assumption is made that Government, in establishing such centres, regards them as an integral and positive

Chinese Ship In Distress

Shanghai, Feb. 1.—The Shanghai coastal radio station picked up a distress signal tonight from the Chinese steamer Ming Hsing, saying it had hit a rock in the Gulf of Chi Li and urgently needed assistance.

The position given was the centre of the Gulf, between the Shantung Peninsula and Port Arthur.

(The same message was heard by Globe Wireless in Manila and San Francisco. There were no details. Shipping registers do not show a vessel of that name, indicating that it either is extremely small or has been renamed.)—Associated Press.

MIRACLE IS NEEDED

To Get Relief Plan Through Congress

Washington, Feb. 1.—On the eve of the Marshall Plan's entry into its second month of a Congressional debate, officials today expressed the fear that it would probably take a miracle to get the plan through Congress by the original April 1 deadline.

They frankly conceded that some similar miraculous form of intervention was likely to be needed to prevent a cut of 1,000,000,000 dollars or more being made in the 6,000,000,000 dollars originally proposed as the United States contribution to the scheme for the first 15 months.

Forty-five days have passed since President Truman formally placed the measure before Congress, and there are only 60 more days to go to April 1.

FLOOR DEBATE

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee should end their hearings on the measure this week but they will take probably another fortnight to come to a decision and write their report.

Republican leadership, however, has decided that the floor debate in the Senate will not start before March 1.

A Senate decision in the third week of March may be expected but this does not take into consideration the far more unstable situation in the House of Representatives. Nor does it allow for the protracted and dangerous process of the Appropriations Committee hearings which must be gone through—even if the bill has received formal approval.—Reuter.

Conspiracy To Murder National Leaders

New Delhi, Feb. 1.—Nearly 20 people suspected of being in a plot aimed not only at killing Mahatma Gandhi but possibly also other national leaders, have been arrested in Bombay, it was learned today.

The police have spread a wide net which they think may unearth a countrywide conspiracy with ramifications in Delhi, West Bengal and East Punjab. Senior officials have flown to various parts of the Dominion to keep inquiries moving at maximum speed in case the nucleus of the plot is still in being.

Rioting today spread to many parts of India directed against the Hindu Mahasabha and other extreme Hindu organisations. Four people were killed yesterday and today in Bombay and tonight the police opened fire to disperse a crowd who attacked tenements in Central Bombay.

The tenement dwellers, said to be followers of the Mahasabha, resisted by hurling stones at the crowd before the police arrived.

In Poona, an attempt was made to fire the houses of militant leaders and a clash in which one person was reported killed, occurred at Bezwada, Madras.

In New Delhi, Mr. G. V. Deshpande, general secretary of the All India Hindu Mahasabha, was arrested and the offices of this orthodox Hindu organisation were searched.

BROTHERS DETAINED

Two brothers of Nathuram Vinayak Godse, who is charged with the Mahatma's murder, Narayan Godse and Dattatraya Godse, were taken into custody by the police.

A special meeting of the Indian Cabinet was held today in New Delhi and appeals for calm were addressed to the people by the Cabinet Ministers.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Deputy Premier, called on all sections of the people to let the law take its course "and not resort to unlawful acts of private revenge or public outbursts of hate."

Princes, politicians and paupers, their hands filled with rose petals and many with tears in their eyes, filed past the Mahatma's ashes here on a last pilgrimage.

In striking contrast to yesterday's tumultuous scenes at the Mahatma's funeral when the vast crowds surged forward and were only with great difficulty held in check, the mourners, many of whom removed their shoes and walked barefoot, moved quietly forward to place their flowers.—Reuter.

IMMERSING OF ASHES

New Delhi, Feb. 1.—The ashes of Mahatma Gandhi will tomorrow be put in a clay bowl and during the next few days will be immersed in the holy waters of the Ganges and Jumna where they meet at Allahabad.

Immersing the ashes is in accordance with customary Vedic rites.

It is believed that a fitting national memorial will be built at Rajahat where the Mahatma was cremated.

At the prayer meeting three girls including the Mahatma's granddaughter and granddaughter-in-law, who always accompanied the Mahatma on his prayer meetings, were standing near the burned out pyre.

After the prayers, the congregation to the accompaniment of devotional chants, filed round the brick base of the pyre.

Pandit Nehru, the Prime Minister was among the several thousand people who this evening attended the prayer meeting.

The car in which the Prime Minister arrived was followed by a jeep with four armed policemen.

"VICTORY TO GANDHI"

At Pune he took off his sandals and laid a small bouquet of roses and a wreath on the pyre afterwards bowing towards it.

As he emerged from the barbed-wire enclosure, crowds surged round and tried to touch his feet, shouting "Victory to Gandhi!" "Victory to Nehru!"

Meanwhile, back at Birla House, bamboo poles had been erected to discourage people from scooping up handfuls of earth to preserve as sacred relics.

China's Envoy To Ceylon

Shanghai, Feb. 2.—The Chinese Government has appointed Dr. Lo Chin-lun, Ambassador to India, as special envoy of the Republic of China to Ceylon on the occasion of the latter's attainment of independence in a few days' time.

Dr. Lo will go direct from New Delhi to Kandy, the capital of Ceylon, to take part in the celebrations.

Ceylon, at present an island colony of the British Empire, will achieve Dominion status next week, following the adoption of the new constitution last year.—Reuter.

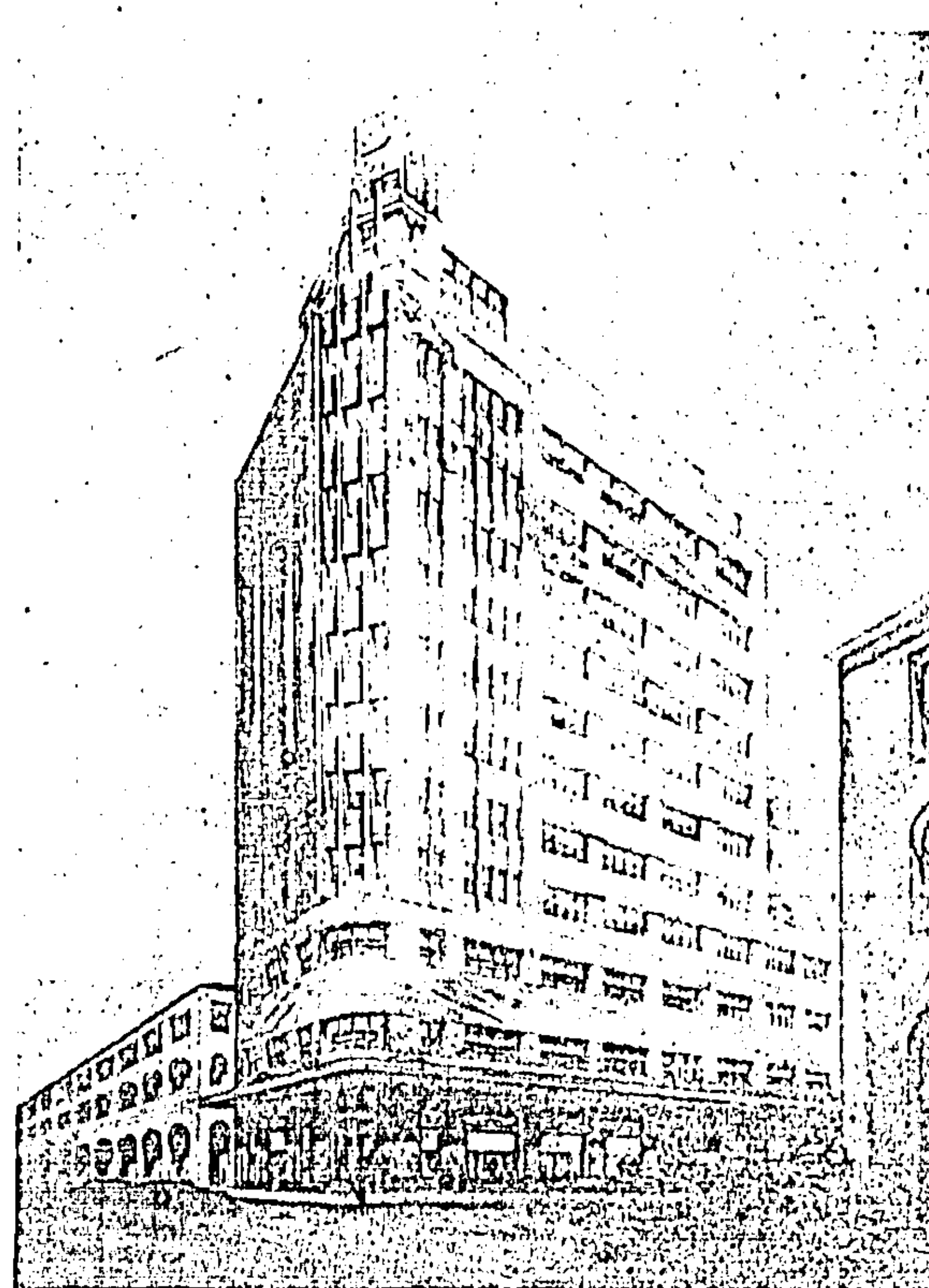
Russian Protest

London, Feb. 1.—Russia has protested to the United States against alleged observation flights by Flying Fortresses over Soviet shipping in the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan. Radio Moscow said today.—United Press.

Gold Bars Seized

Shanghai, Feb. 1.—Gold bars and foreign currencies seized from black-market operators, valued at US\$40,000, recently were turned over by police to the Finance Control Bureau office here.—United Press.

Tallest In Kowloon



This architectural drawing shows what the proposed new telephone exchange in Kowloon will look like when completed.

192-Foot Skyscraper For Kowloon

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING

Kowloon will see the beginnings of its first skyscraper when the first piles are driven this week for a twelve storey office building at the corner of Nathan and Cameron roads.

To be built by the Hongkong Telephone Company, the finished building will stand 192 feet high, just 24 feet lower than the Hongkong Shanghai Bank, the tallest building in the Colony.

Constructed to house a new telephone exchange which will serve the southern area of Kowloon, the skyscraper will provide space for shops on the ground floor. The first and second storeys will be occupied by offices, in addition to the telephone exchange, and the remaining floors will be made into flats for Telephone Company employees.

It is believed that the Dairy Farm will in all probability occupy the shop space on the ground floor.

Planned with an eye to land economy, the building will cover a ground area of only 4,749 square feet, which is at present being used as garden plots. The main entrance will face Nathan Road, where the building's total frontage will be 30.10 feet. The longer section will stretch along Cameron Road and will provide a second door for entrance to the flats.

MODERN DESIGN

There will be two sets of lifts, one in front for the offices and one in the rear for the flats.

Built on a modernistic design, the higher floors will be stepped back from the lower ones in four layers. Three spacious flats will be constructed on storeys three to seven, and two on the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh storeys. The twelfth floor will be a large penthouse.

All flat windows will be facing South in order to catch the greatest amount of summer sun.

Servants quarters will be separated from the flats by a corridor on each floor and will occupy the Northern side of the building.

The skyscraper will be faced with marble up to the second storey and the remaining ten floors will be finished off with facing tiles.

APPOINTMENT

Canberra, Australia, Feb. 1.—Rear-Admiral J. A. Collins is the first Australian appointed as Chief of Staff of the Royal Australian Navy. He succeeds Admiral Sir Louis Hamilton.

Collins has recently completed an Imperial Defence College course in England.—United Press.

Bomb In Newspaper Office

JERUSALEM OUTRAGE

Village Raid

Jerusalem, Feb. 1.—Fire broke out in the Palestine Post building in the heart of Jerusalem tonight after a shattering explosion, believed to have been caused by an Arab bomb, shook the city.

All available fire engines and police and Army forces were dispatched to the debris-cluttered scene.

The comparative quiet throughout the day in Jerusalem ended in the middle of the evening when there was a big explosion in the old city. It was also believed to have been due to an Arab bomb. The explosion was followed by automatic arms fire—an exchange between British military sentries on the rooftops and Arabs, or between Arab and Jewish patrols.

Shortly afterward, there was a great explosion at the Palestine Post Building, which also houses the United Press Jerusalem Bureau. It is 100 yards from Police Headquarters and near the Palestine Post Office Building.

RESCUED BY NEWSMAN

The police feared several persons might be buried in the debris. John Donovan, National Broadcasting Company correspondent, saved the life of one man whom he dragged from the wreckage. He was passing by when the explosion occurred and he was the first to rush to the aid of possible casualties.

Flames began shooting up from the press room of the Palestine Post in the basement of the building and firemen edged into the fire in an attempt to remove inflammable material.

As violence flared anew in Jerusalem, a Jewish source reported that thousands of Jewish refugees, sent to Cyprus after failing to run the anti-immigration blockade off the Palestine coast, were training to join the Hagana "defence army."—United Press.

"PREVENTIVE RAID"

Jerusalem, Feb. 2.—Haganah, the Jewish militia, said it attacked the village of Beit Safafa south of Jerusalem at dawn today and killed eight Arabs. Haganah described the attack as a "preventive raid" against the headquarters of 150 Syrians in the village. Unofficial deaths since the United Nations voted to partition the Holy Land rose to 1,010.

Police said an Arab was killed and his wife injured at Acre in Northern Palestine when Jews raided a house they believed served as Arab headquarters.

Meanwhile, a small Jewish refugee ship arrived at Haifa after being intercepted in Palestine waters.—Associated Press.

Shanghai Cabaret Guild And Union Ordered To Dissolve

Shanghai, Feb. 2.—Holding them responsible for Saturday's rioting, the local authorities have ordered the dissolution of the Shanghai Cabaret Owners' Guild and the Cabaret Workers' Union, which are concurrently running a quarter-page advertisement in the Shanghai papers appealing for public support for their cause.

The reports, however, that all cabarets would be closed down as a result of the incident were denied by Mr. Li Chien-hwa, Deputy Commissioner of Social Affairs.

He said the results of the lot drawing on Saturday morning, which the cabaret operators refused to recognise, would be upheld. This lot drawing decided that 14 of the dancing establishments, including virtually all the leading ones in the city, would have to close down by the end of March.

Undrawn establishments will have a further six-months grace before winding up at the end of September. Mr. Li said these houses would be free to continue operations while the disturbances last Saturday would be dealt with separately as an independent issue, according to the law.

The cabaret owners, however, expressed their intention to keep their establishments closed pending a settlement of the whole issue. Despite yesterday being a Sunday, the staff and workers of the Social

Affairs Bureau turned up in full force at the office to take stock of the damage done and to undertake preliminary repairs.

Apart from valuable papers, documents and files destroyed, the material damage suffered was estimated at roughly CN\$5,000 million.

Semi-official Chinese sources claim that evidence has been found that the rioting last Saturday was a planned affair. They said the authorities found a printed notice on the person of most of the dancing girls participating in the demonstration, calling for attendance of all the girls at the mass-meeting.

The City law enforcement bodies are now on the trail of the men who pulled the strings in the affair. Up to late last night, 107 of some 800 cabaret girls and employees originally rounded up, were still in police custody.

Government leaders in Nanking are described in Chinese press reports as being greatly exasperated by the news of the wild demonstrations and have ordered the severe punishment of the ringleaders.

Both the Mayor, Mr. K. C. Wu, and the Garrison Commander, Lieutenant General Hsuan Ti-wu, are said to be firm in their stand to punish all those responsible for the trouble.

The cabaret owners held meetings yesterday, but no decision as to the next move was reached.—Reuter.

SHOWING
TO-DAY

KING'S

SHOWING
TO-DAY

SPECIAL TIMES
AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

From Sista to Fiesta in one Merry musical... from the producers of "Anchors Aweigh".

MGM's Holiday in Mexico
A CARNIVAL IN TECHNICOLOR!

STARRING
WALTER PIDGEON
with **JOSE ITURBI**
Roddy McDOWALL • **Jane POWELL**
ILONA MASSEY
Xavier Cugat and ORCH.

DIRECTED BY
GEORGE SIDNEY
PRODUCED BY
JOE PASTERNAK

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ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL
BOOKING HOURS: 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Daily.

HELD OVER! THE 20TH DAY!
"THE TEARS OF YANGTZE"
DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN
FIRST PART SECOND PART
"EIGHT WAR-TORN YEARS" "THE DAWN"
AT 7.30 & 7.15 P.M. AT 12.00 NOON, 5.00 & 9.30 P.M.
NEXT CHANGE

A CHILLER OF A KILLER DILLER!

FRED ALLEN
3 IN THE BAG

At Guest Stars: **JACK BENNY**
DON AMECHE • **WILLIAM BENDIS**
VICTOR MOORE • **RUDY VALLEE**
BUNNIE BARNES • **ROBERT BENICKEY** • **JERRY COLOMA**

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TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
— GRAND DOUBLE ATTRACTION —

Melody Parade
with **MARY BETH HUGHES**
EDDIE QUILLAN • **TIM and IRENE**
MANTAN MORELAND • **ARMIDA**
AND TWO ORCHESTRAS
ANSON WEEKS and His Orchestra
ALDO RO RITO and His Orchestra

SIDNEY TOLER
CHARLIE CHAN
THE SECRET SERVICE
A MONOGRAM PICTURE

TO-DAY ONLY **Cathay** AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
THE MOST RECKLESS RENEGADES IN HISTORY!

FRONTIER BADMEN
...RO...PRICE...AND...NO...BARRYMORE
...ANDY DEVINE...CON CHANEY

"TO-MORROW" BACK AGAIN • BY PUBLIC DEMAND!
Ray MILLAND • John WAYNE • Paulette GODDARD in
"REAP THE WILD WIND" TECHNICOLOR

I TALKED WITH TRUMAN

WASHINGTON. THE life of a journalist is not unlike that of a scene shifter in a theatre, who sees the great and the celebrated close at hand, acquires a bowing acquaintance with them, admires them for their performance, but stops this side of idolatry because he finds that they are merely human beings. No man can be great at all times, or he would be insufferable. Perhaps that is why the journalist in the wings is seldom a hero worshipper. He sees the war.

Therefore when the State Department sent word to me at New York that the President would receive me, I was pleased without being unduly excited. It is true that the President of the United States in any period must rank high among the six most important men in the world, but it is even more true that today the man who holds that office stands first above all others.

But what do any of us know about Mr. Truman? He was a soldier in the 1914-18 war and then plied the trade of haberdasher in a country which has the worst taste in ties in the entire civilised world. Nevertheless, Mr. Truman cannot be blamed for the present American style in neckwear which is a return to the Totem Poles of the Red Indians. Truly, the ties in this country are fearful and wonderful; the more so because the waistcoat has been almost totally abandoned, and one is presented with the full glory of the Totem. Tie displayed against the male American torso.

We also know that Mr. Truman plays the piano, and that his daughter sings. Beyond that we remember that he was a compromise Vice-president, and that he became President only through the death of Mr. Roosevelt.

'How Many Dead?'
I REACHED Washington on the evening of the day that Mr. Truman had made his "State of the Union" speech to Congress.

The next morning I picked up a cab in order to call first on our Ambassador. The driver was an elderly man with a curious Shakespearean sense of humour. Pointing at a cemetery, he asked: "How many are there dead there?" I told him that I did not know. "They all are," he said. "It was worthy of the Second Gravedigger in 'Hamlet,' if not the First."

Telling him to wait, I went into the Embassy and had a brisk 20 minutes with Lord Inverchapel. "There are three grades of popularity in this country," said the Ambassador. "First, you're a good guy. Then you're a regular guy. Finally, you're..." I wish I could

WASHINGTON.

print the third because it is very funny and very true. In short it is a term of endearment used among Americans, but we shall leave it at that.

I hope Lord Inverchapel will write his memoirs when he lays down the Ambassadorial torch. His comments on Russia were pointed, shrewd and enlightening. He has the humour of the Scot at its merriest best.

My ancient driver was asleep, but I woke him up and, with calculated nonchalance, told him to drive to the White House. "Going to see the President?" he asked. I admitted that it was even so.

"Well," he said, "Mr. Truman is a humble man." At this point we passed the cemetery again. "There's one place," he said, "that no one ever tries to break into." After that he fell into a silence for nearly a quarter of a mile, when, without any connecting thought, he remarked: "I'm a humble man, but that don't say I should be President of the United States."

How elegant and restrained is this beautiful city of



BEVERLEY BAXTER, MP

finds 'the most untroubled-looking man in the U.S.A.'—in the White House

Washington. . . . How soothing it is to the senses after the mad vortex of New York. . . . Looking at the beautiful houses, the wide boulevards and the noble dome of the Capitol, one is allowed to forget for a moment about the American dollar.

FDR Scored

TELLING the gravedigger to wait, I was duly passed into the President's ante-chamber, first exchanging greetings on the way with many journalists whom I have known over the years. Mr. Truman is not as good copy to them as Mr. Roosevelt, but they stand on guard and hope.

Being 20 minutes early for my appointment, I watched single visitors and one deputation, headed by a senator in a grey frock coat, disappear into the President's room and then emerge.

The President was obviously dealing swiftly with his appointments and I felt that my interview would be a case of *Hail Caesar* and Farewell.

THE 'RED BELT' STATES ON A ONE-WAY STREET

By LARRY ALLEN

WARSAW. ONE of the "Red Belt" States of Europe is moving along a one way street, slowly but surely standardising its activities with those of other Slav nations and Soviet Russia.

Like other nations in the Soviet sphere, Poland is trying to show the world that she can get along without assistance under the Marshall Plan, and seems to be doing a pretty good job of it.

Poland attained or exceeded last year's fixed production targets in practically every major industry after UNRRA gave the nation a flying start by pouring in US\$480 million of food supplies, transport and industrial equipment.

Today, Poland is becoming an increasingly vital part of what seems to be a Soviet directed programme in the states of Eastern Europe to form a standardised bloc against the West.

Poland has signed commercial treaties with virtually every Eastern country, some in the West and all of Scandinavia. These have been a working lever that has produced cultural alliances with "Red Belt" States, agreements on co-operation and standardisation of industrial enterprises and pacts of mutual assistance.

One move was the agreement for the closest economic and industrial co-operation with Czechoslovakia. Today Poles and Czechs see eye to eye on what and how industrial products should be made, and exchange scientific and technical information.

Thus it is only a matter of time until Poles can work efficiently in Czech industries and Czechs in Polish plants.

The synchronisation goes farther than that. Poles and Czechs are developing standardised cultures. They are reading the same kind of books and exchanging films. Also their youth and political organisations are operating along similar lines.

Poland and Czechoslovakia started off with a series of pacts of friendship and mutual assistance, aimed at protecting themselves against a possible rebirth of German aggression.

"The President will see you now," said "Charlie" Ross, the most human and friendly Press chief in the world. In fact, Mr. Ross came in with me and did the introductions, and then sat down perhaps as a safeguard.

My first and lasting impression was that the President was the most untroubled-looking man I had seen since my arrival in America. He has a good colour and it would not have been surprising if he had just returned from a holiday in Florida. In all my experience of politicians in high office I can remember no one who gave such an impression of inner tranquillity.

Also he has an unaffected smile which plays over his face at the least suggestion of fun in the conversation. Finally, he possesses that rare gift of being genuinely interested in the person to whom he is talking.

I asked him how he kept so fit. "Well, as Charlie knows," he said, "I try to get in a swim every day, and a two-mile walk." When he walks so Mr. Ross told me after the war, the President does so at the old army pace of 120 to the minute.

(1) Worry? No!

"BUT that does not explain your looking so untroubled," I said to Mr. Truman.

He smiled, and then his face became serious. "When I take a decision," he said, "it is taken, and I don't spend time worrying about it. I can't afford to." Then he smiled again. "There are always so many new decisions awaiting their turn."

The conversation changed to Britain, and he listened intently to my description of the improving morale of the country.

I do not propose to publish everything the President said, because he does not "give interviews." When Ambassador Lew Douglas was good enough to arrange an audience for me, I promised that I would not do more than give an impression in anything that I wrote.

But there can be no breach of confidence in stating that Mr. Truman spoke of Great Britain with a warmth which moved me deeply. "She has given the world so much," he said, "in every State but one our law is based on British law. Then with quickening words he spoke of the development of British law and justice from Edward the First downwards through the centuries. Suddenly he smiled almost apologetically. "I was so fascinated by the subject that I studied it for two years," he said.

Lord Beaverbrook had led a mission to Moscow to determine Russia's needs in planes, tanks and other armaments of war. The mission consisted of some 60 people—experts in tanks, aircraft, and artillery, with their staffs.

Immediately after settling his entourage in their hotel in Moscow, Lord Beaverbrook looked round him anxiously. He was ready to begin the conference.

'Coming over'
Beaverbrook turned to his secretary. "Get me Stalin on the phone," he ordered.

The secretary hesitated. "Get me Stalin immediately," snapped Beaverbrook.

The secretary got an interpreter to ring the Kremlin—and there was Stalin on the line.

"Tell him," said Beaverbrook, "that I am coming over to see him now."

"Marshal Stalin," said the interpreter, "he says come right over."

Within ten minutes a car was on its way to the Kremlin carrying Lord Beaverbrook. Stalin was there to shake hands.

"I want to know your minimum requirements from us in the way of war material," said Lord Beaverbrook.

Stalin jotted down a few figures—so many thousand tanks, so many thousand aircraft, gun barrels, vehicles, and so on.

Beaverbrook took out his pen, struck a few thoughts from the ends of the various figures.

Stalin pondered the reduction finally agreed. He sent for vodka.

'Send a band'
Back at his hotel Lord Beaverbrook found the members of the mission sitting gloomily in the big, empty lounge. He turned to his secretary. "Get me Stalin on the phone again. Tell him this hotel is like a morgue. See if he can send us over a band of some kind."

"Marshal Stalin," he said, "he says O.K."

Soon the place was booming with cheerful music. Some days later one of the mission approached Lord Beaverbrook. "Well, we are having a jolly time," he said, "but when does the conference begin?"

"My dear sir, the conference is over long ago," replied Beaverbrook, "only we cannot go home yet. They would think we had done no work."

That, according to Sir George Usher, was the shortest-ever conference with the Russians.

"At the University?" I asked. "No," he said, "at night school."

Just then he pointed to a huge brass globe of the world at the opposite side of the room. "That was used by General Eisenhower in the North African campaign," he said. "I keep the trouble spots in the world facing me. I shall leave it here for the next President."

"But won't you be the next President?"

For the first time the gentle humanity of his face hardened. In that look, and in the few words that he spoke, there was an almost ironic picture of the unbearable load that an American President has to carry. He did not dramatise it, nor even indulge in the slightest suggestion of self-pity. But the meaning was there.

The gravedigger in the taxicab was awake this time, and I told him to drive to the airfield as I had to catch the airplane for New York.

"It's a fine day for the race, he said. But I wasn't going to fall for that one."

Is Mr. Truman a great man? Not if we judge greatness by the accepted standards. But Truman is a good man. I am certain that when he passes the statue of Lincoln his spirit is humble.

Harry Truman is the Common Man, but he is not a little man.

'Get me Stalin on the phone!'

BIT BY BIT time strips the official camouflage from the great moments of the war... and bit by bit emerge more intimate stories of what went on. Stories like this one. . . .

Cape Town.

A WAR-TIME conference with Stalin which did not last long has been described at a dinner party here by Sir George Usher, former Director-General of Tank Supplies, now visiting South Africa.

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Back at his hotel Lord Beaverbrook found the members of the mission sitting gloomily in the big, empty lounge. He turned to his secretary. "Get me Stalin on the phone again. Tell him this hotel is like a morgue. See if he can send us over a band of some kind."

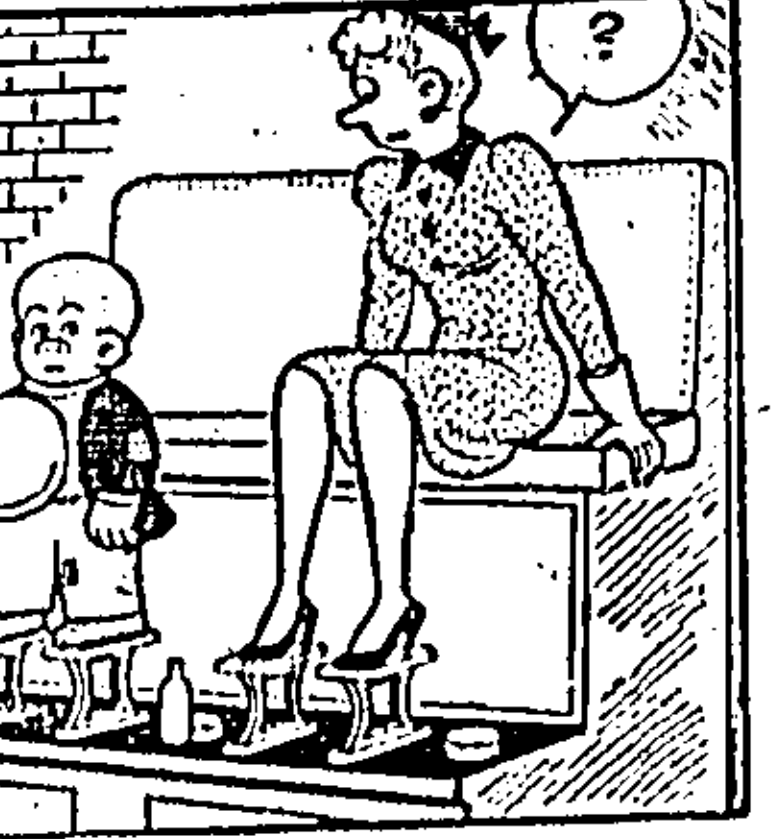
"Marshal Stalin," he said, "he says O.K."

Soon the place was booming with cheerful music. Some days later one of the mission approached Lord Beaverbrook. "Well, we are having a jolly time," he said, "but when does the conference begin?"

"My dear sir, the conference is over long ago," replied Beaverbrook, "only we cannot go home yet. They would think we had done no work."

That, according to Sir George Usher, was the shortest-ever conference with the Russians.

NANCY Little Perfectionist



Don't wait till you see this!

START USING
Fitch's
DANDRUFF REMOVER
SHAMPOO
&
QUINOLIN

SOLE AGENTS: **NAN KANG CO.** UNION ALCOHOL

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Charles Paul for Lois Leeds.

Here's a Man's Eye View of woman's work! What do you say, girls?

MAN'S EYE VIEW

Charles Paul, CBS organist for the "Young Dr. Malone" and "Road of Life" programmes, thinks that men are naturally better "kitchen mechanics" than women, because they are stronger. "After all," says Paul, "men get into pretty much fifty per cent. artistry and fifty per cent. brute force."

"Consider for example, the following menu—
Tomato juice—Avocado salad.
Baked ham with acorn squash.
Fresh pineapple bits.

The housewife approaches the ham armed with assorted tools. In the end, she has a ham that is a little more like a ham than a ham. She has made little cross-hatch marks on the ham and dot with cloves and other seasoning. None of these cookbooks acknowledge the presence of the outer skin of the ham, which is comparable in texture to a G.I. boot at the end of the rainy season. Nothing short of 100 lb. pressure can separate skin from ham.

"Then take the avocado, if you can. Even a cursory experience with the avocado will convince you that it is a fruit to be approached with caution. Your insurance company can probably supply hair-raising statistics about household accidents resulting from sharp knives sliding from the avocado into a vital part of the housewife's anatomy.

"As for the Acorn Squash, it is the vegetable equivalent of the turtle. I have known many of the frail-

er sex who have had to take a Florida vacation as the only cure for the physical exhaustion resulting from cutting open a half dozen squashes.

"We may feel our case against the pineapple by saying that it is the fruit equivalent of the acorn squash. Only a dock worker in unusually good condition is qualified to handle this impenetrable fruit!

"Even a tomato juice cocktail is fraught with danger. Between the can opener and the stuck ice cube trays, this simple item is quite an undertaking. The weaker sex," says Paul, "is obviously the stronger sex, just worn out from living a life of constant misadventure!"

FULL BLOOM



Strapless, flower-splashed... crinolene evening gown in fine wool from the Perry Allen collection modelled at a recent London fashion parade.

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE



If you have a pretty mouth, try accenting it with very dramatic lipstick, but no rouge. If you have beautiful eyes make them more beautiful with a little touch of eye-shadow and beautifully groomed eyebrows and eyelashes!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Couldn't you say we were observing the save-food programme? Did you have to tell them we can't afford meat?"

Russians Fortifying Sakhalin Island

Shanghai, Jan. 30.—The southern tip of Sakhalin Island, across the narrow Soya Strait from the northern tip of Hokkaido, Japan, is fully fortified with a Russian military establishment and a major submarine base guarded by 30,000 of more than 400,000 Russian troops scattered over the entire island, Chinese repatriates who were there two months ago have told the United Press.

OWL-WATCH IN DARK

What kind of face does an owl make when it hoots? British bird watcher Eric Hosking hopes to find out now that the British Admiralty has lent him a black searchlight—an infra-red ray device developed during the war so that troops could see in complete darkness without being seen.

Sitting in a tree in Sussex in the dark, unseen—his hopes—by the owls, Hosking will watch them by telescope.

And another bit of ornithology—Emma, the prized emu at the Pigeon (Devon) Zoo, has laid six eggs, virtually unprecedented in Britain.

Her husband, in the emu fashion, is doing the hatching of the eggs in public and seemingly oblivious of the throngs which crowd around his cage.

"Given reasonably good weather," said a Zoo official, "the eggs may be hatched in six weeks, but it is doubtful 'in Britain.'—Associated Press.

Fish May Aid Water Study

The possibility of using fish as aids in studies on purification of water for human consumption was suggested to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Describing experiments showing that aquatic plants with characteristic odours serve as "chemical guideposts" for fish when visibility is poor, Dr. T. J. Walker, of the University of Wisconsin added:

"The sensitivity of the smelling organ and the ability of fish to recognise the presence or absence of familiar substances in a mixture of odours suggests the possibility that fish might be used to aid in the weeding out of contaminants, if trained to the pure substance, or to indicate the absence or loss of components during chemical manipulations.

For instance, sanitary engineers might find the fish ideally suited for studies on water purification since plant odours do spoil the palatability of water."—Associated Press.

1948 Abacus Has 17 Columns

The 1948 model abacus has 17 columns to handle astronomical figures Chinese businessmen tackle nowadays under inflation.

The largest earlier models have only 13 columns while in smaller stores, nine-column abacuses were widely used. Abacus manufacturers in China are closely watching the economic conditions which might call for later models containing as many as 21 columns.

For unknown reasons, the number of columns on the abacus is always odd. Each column contains seven beads, five under the horizontal bar and two above. Each of the former, stands for one and each of the latter for five.

Grasshoppers Went To Adelaide

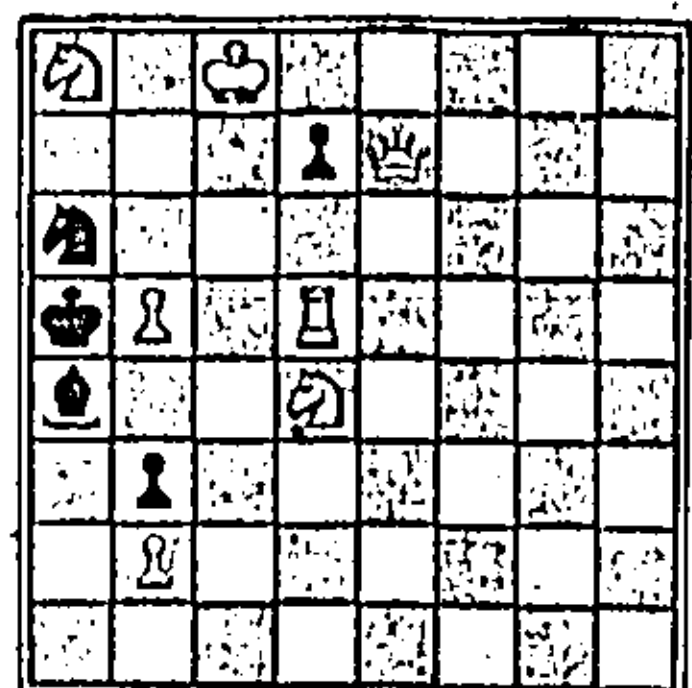
When clouds of grasshoppers descended on Adelaide, members of bowls clubs were mobilised by radio to save their greens from being eaten away.

They hosed the greens continuously to prevent swarms of grasshoppers from settling, and the following Saturday the game was able to go on.

The grasshopper plague also interfered with tennis matches, and players said that they had difficulty in seeing the ball at times.—Associated Press.

CHESS PROBLEM

By K. NIELSEN
Black, 6 pieces.



White, 7 pieces.

White to play and mate in two.

Solution to Saturday's problem:

1. B-R4. 1... K-B5. 2. U-B2; 1... K-B3; 2. R-Q1.

The repatriates, now in Shanghai, told a story of cruelty, hardships and oppression under the Soviets, of being forced to work in slave camps, of executions for infractions of rigid rules and behaviour, and of military might being poured into Sakhalin.

The story was told in Japanese. The Chinese have been in Sakhalin so long, many 25 years—some were born there—that they speak only Japanese. The service of a Japanese interpreter was necessary.

The older men were merchants, restaurant owners and craftsmen under the Japanese. Before the war they had no trouble with the Japs, but during the war they were watched closely but not mistreated. With the occupation by the Russians trouble began.

This group of 161 repatriates—88 of them are children—sailed from Sakhalin on November 16. They were from Odomari—the site of one of Japan's biggest wartime submarine bases—and Toyohara city, on a bay north of Odomari. The accuracy of their statements may be subject to some doubt due to the intensity of feeling against the Soviets, but they all agreed and answered questions.

Many Submarines

Chen Chi-yung, 19, well-educated Chinese born in Sakhalin, was the authority for the information that 30,000 troops were in Toyohara and Odomari. He said there were many submarines in Odomari, and added that the base was protected by a fleet of 500 warplanes—two-engined aircraft—and there was a ring of multi-barrelled two-inch anti-aircraft guns around the base.

He said that planes were in the air day and night and the sound of practice firing of anti-aircraft guns was heard every day. It was generally accepted that the figure of Russian troops is 400,000 on the entire island.

He said there were many warships coming and going all the time but very few merchant ships. There were a few Russian civilians on the island. He said there were "many generals and admirals."

Yun Gee, an older man standing by, nodded and traced with his finger the designs of the sickle, hammer and stars on the shoulder and collar to indicate the Soviet "big brass" he had seen.—United Press.

Army Protest Over Film

The American film, "Objective Burma," has been temporarily withdrawn from the Malayan screen following a protest from Army General Headquarters, Singapore.

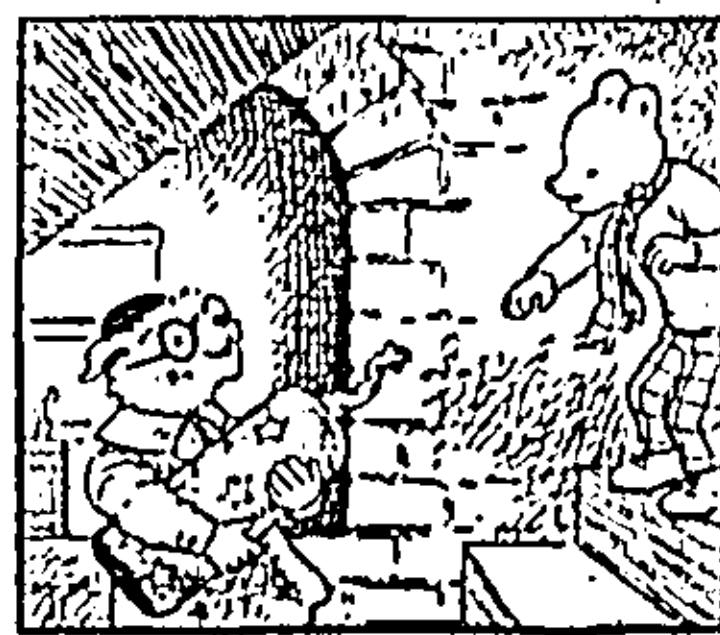
"Objective Burma" purports to show a group of American paratroopers on a mission behind the Japanese lines in Burma and a subsequent airborne invasion of Burma. An Army spokesman said that the film gave the impression that American forces liberated Burma, whereas the British 14th and 12th Armies were primarily responsible.

The Appeal Board will shortly reconsider its decision to pass the film because of the Army protest.

The distributors, Warner Brothers, have meanwhile asked the New York office for advice.

The censor banned "Objective Burma" a year ago but at the request of the distributors, his successor submitted it to the Appeal Board. The Board passed the film.

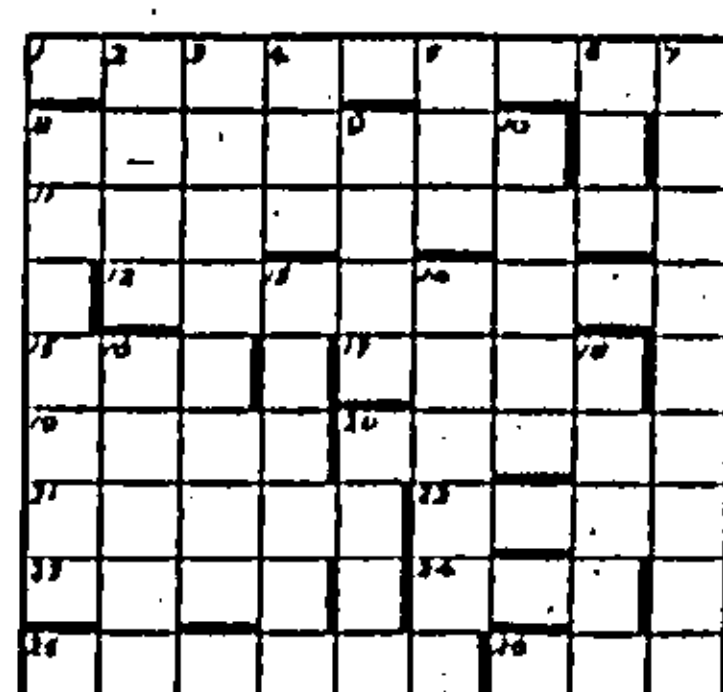
Rupert and the Big Bang—32



Bingo takes Rupert down some steps to a cellar under the ruins, and with some puffing and grunting picks up a huge firework from the ruins. "I've been trying all sort of things that make loud noises," he pants. "Now I've made this to see if it will go off with a real big bang—bigger than all the other bangs." Rupert looks thrilled. "May I help?" he says. "Can I carry one end for you? The schoolmaster said we were to help you if we could!"

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across
1. Is this how you turn a close wick? (4)
2. Temporary residence. (7)
3. Surprising the decorative print one may use for large soap. (11)
4. A million multiplied twice by 2.

Down
5. Sing with rhythmic effect. (4)
6. Introduce the revue act. (8)
7. Usually follows the bill. (5)
8. Tiptoe known in the Navy. (3)
9. Weaken. (3)
10. The one lost in race science. (6)
11. The India's grip to a "T." (7)
12. Car in the dog world. (5)
13. Make certain (6)
14. Aha. (3)
15. Insect enemy; (3). 16. Dig. (6)
17. A closing word. (4)



McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Bids Slam, Lures Lead To Make It

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| ♠ Q J 10 | ♥ 7 5 2 | ♦ Q J 10 5 3 | ♣ 4 |
| ♠ 6 5 3 | ♥ K Q 8 | ♦ A 7 6 | ♣ J 5 |
| N | W | E | S |
| ♠ A K 7 4 | ♥ A 10 9 | ♦ None | ♣ A K 9 8 7 |
| Tournament—Neither vul. | | | |
| South | West | North | East |
| 2 ♠ | Pass | 2 N. T. | Pass |
| 3 ♠ | Pass | 4 ♠ | Pass |
| 5 ♠ | Pass | 6 ♠ | Pass |
| Pass | Double | Pass | Pass |
| Redouble | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| Opening—♥ K | | | |

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

I DRIFTED into the Mayfair Bridge Club in New York the other night looking for an interesting hand or two, and Aaron Green gave me a neat one. You might not want to bid two clubs with the South hand, but Green opened with that bid.

Having no aces, his partner bid two no trump. The three spade and four spade bids were normal, but the five diamond bid was made only after careful consideration. Green wanted to play the hand at six as soon as he found out that his partner had a fit in spades, but he also wanted to get a heart opening, therefore he bid diamonds. When West doubled, Green redoubled on the theory that his bidding was going to help him make the contract.

Sure enough, he got the king of hearts opening. He won it with the ace, cashed the ace and king of clubs and ruffed the third club in dummy. Next he cashed the queen and jack of spades, then led a heart and took the finesse. West won with the queen and led the ace of diamonds. Green trumped with the king of spades, cashed the ace, and the balance of the tricks were his.

Truly a fortunate hand—the spades had to break 3-3 and the clubs had to break 3-3. The king and queen of hearts both did not have to be in the West hand, but since they were the heart opening was fortunate.

But the science of the hand came in bidding it so that the heart would be opened.

Check Your Knowledge

- How many genders do ants have?
- Do London police carry guns?
- Who was called "the one man army of Bataan"?
- With reference to sea routes, to what does the "Great Circle" refer?
- In what part of the world does the sun rise at approximately six o'clock every day?

(Answers on Page 4)

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SPECIAL TIMES: 2.30, 5.00, 7.15 & 9.30 P.M.

FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY

SPENCER TRACY • KATHERINE HEPBURN
ROBERT WALKER • MELVYN DOUGLAS

"THE SEA OF GRASS"

An MGM Picture

OPENING TO-MORROW



B.G. De Sylva presents

BETTY HUTTON

"STORK CLUB"

with BARRY FITZGERALD

DON DEFORE

Robert Benchley • Bill Gooden • Bill Adler

Mabel Rossary • Mary Young

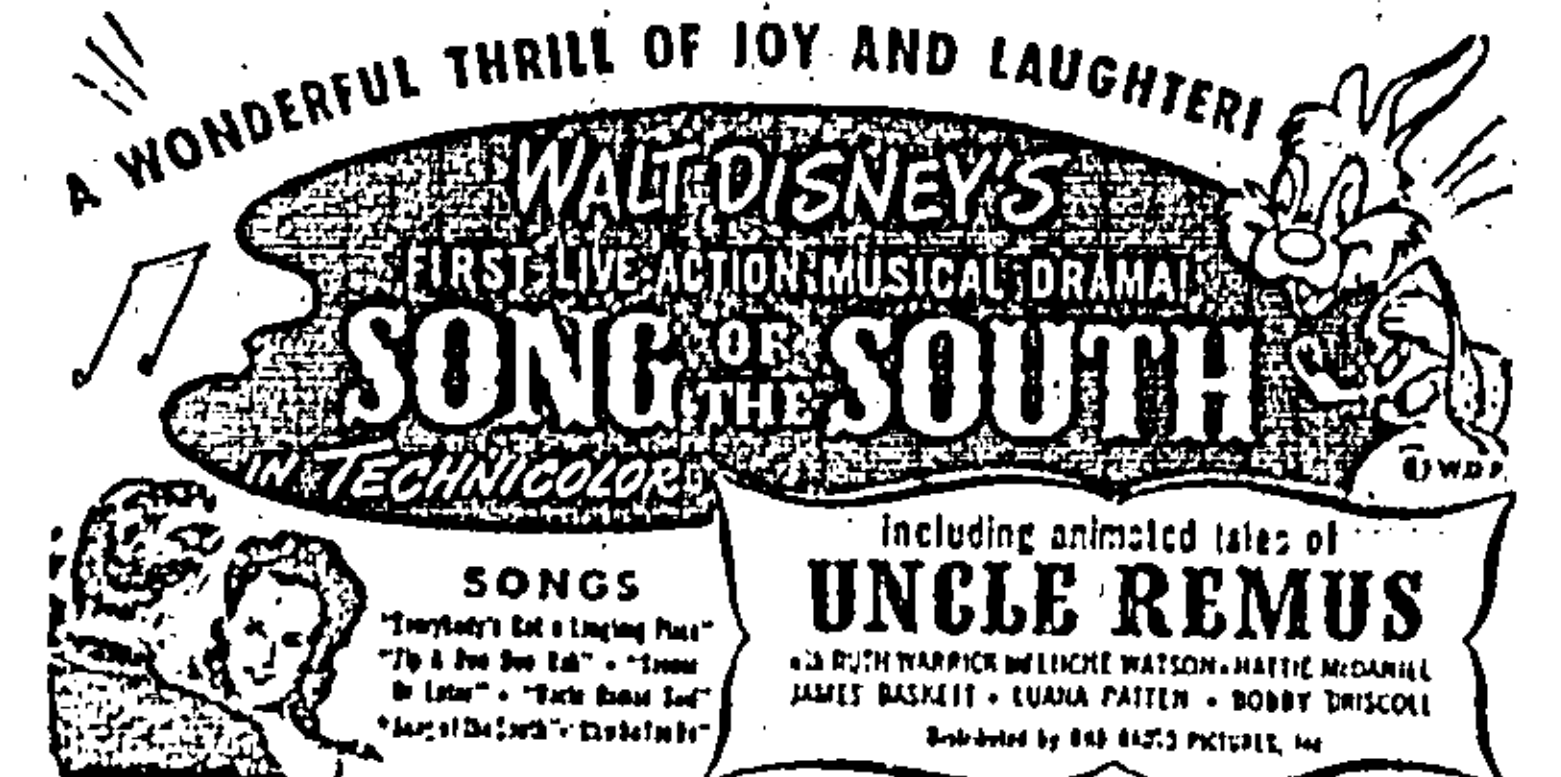
and introducing ANDY RUSSELL

Directed by Hal Walker

A Paramount Picture

ORIENTAL

FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.20—9.20 P.M.
A GRAND MUSICAL-COMEDY U CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS!



Special For To-morrow Only: "HEART-BEAT"

HONG KONG STAGE CLUB

Presents

"THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER"

by George S. Kaufman & Moss Hart

AT

Missions to Seamen Theatre

Tickets \$5 & \$3
at Moutries or
the Theatre

Wednesday, Feb. 4th
for 4 nights
at 8.30

STAR

2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
TO-DAY ONLY



To-morrow & Wednesday
"Very Thought Of You"
starring
Dennis Morgan • Eleanor Parker

CHURCH LOSES INFLUENCE

The Protestant churches of the United States are rapidly losing the allegiance of the people through their failure to overcome historical and institutional differences, says Dr. Truman B. Douglass, executive vice-president of the Board of Home Missions of the U.S. Congregational Church.

Dr. Douglass told delegates representing 23 denominations that the Protestant churches in the U.S. may make a radical break with the present denomination system.

Dr. Douglass said: "How can the churches of America plead with the United Nations to heal their differences when the plea is spoken in the voices of 250 denominations who themselves have been unable to get together."—Associated Press.

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

That Scandalous London Hussy Sweeps to the Screen!



Paramount presents
"Kitty"
starring
PAULETTE GODDARD
RAY MILLAND

A Mitchell Leisen production
with Patric Knowles • Cecil Kellaway
Reginald Owen • Constance Collier
Directed by Mitchell Leisen

NEXT CHANCE
"TARS AND SPARS"

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers are requested to note that not less than 24 hours notice prior to the day of publication should be given for all commercial display advertisements, change of copy etc. Notices and Classified Advertisements will be received up till 4.30 p.m. for the following day.

CHINA WAR:

Fifth Army General In Red Hands

Moscow, Feb. 1.—According to the Chinese Communist Hsin Hua news agency, the Communist troops in Manchuria have taken prisoner the commander of the Fifth Chinese Government Army, General Chen Hui-tan, Tass, Soviet news agency, reported today.

The Communist troops captured 7,000 officers and men and considerable booty in the fighting for Sinlung, in Western Manchuria, the Hsin Hua agency said.

The capture of this town, it added, has opened the way for a further Communist advance on the Manchurian city of Mukden.—Reuter.

Yangtze River Traffic

Hankow, Feb. 1.—The strangulation of river commerce by operations of the Chinese Communists and partly due to deterioration of foreign shipping in Shanghai, has resulted in shipping along this section of the Yangtze being cut in half, a shipping spokesman revealed. The spokesman, an official of the Min Seng Development Company, said that decrease in the arrival of commodities from Shanghai was "remarkable," and that the bulk of goods arriving here for down-river shipment were rice and cereals consigned mainly to the military.

But with the up-river traffic in tung oil, sugar and other farm products dwindling in both arrivals and departures, the spokesman said the amount of traffic in these commodities has decreased to less than 50 percent.

"The shipment of goods to ports along the middle section of the Yangtze is also decreasing," he said, attributing this mainly to the scarcity of supplies from Shanghai as well as disruption of the Peking-Hankow railway by the Communists.

At Ichang, he said, ordinary traffic would result in daily shipments totalling 10,000 pounds piling up on the docks. Now, he said that figure has dropped greatly.—United Press.

PROTECTION AGAINST ATOMIC WAR

Washington, Feb. 1.—Senator Alexander Wiley, Wisconsin Republican, reported today that Defence Secretary James Forrestal and the Joint Chiefs of Staff are studying decentralisation of the armed forces and the Federal Government for security against an atomic attack.

Writing in the periodical, Reserve Officer, Senator Wiley said an atomic war with Russia could turn the capital instantly into a "death trap for American liberty."

Asserting "we are now living in a fool's paradise of apathy and inertia," Senator Wiley added: "We must decentralise the destiny of national extinction."

Senator Wiley has introduced legislation embodying his ideas of preparing for an atomic assault which might wipe out Washington and other large cities.

Approaching Mr. Forrestal on the question he received the reply, "I heartily agree with you that decentralisation of federal activities is advantageous from the viewpoint of national defence. I have appointed Air Secretary W. Stuart Symington, chairman of a small committee to work with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and with the National Security Resources Board on the broader aspect of the problem."

"For the past 15 months the Joint Chiefs of Staff have been studying dispersion and protection of military facilities and other national agencies in the light of new developments, weapons and operational techniques,"—United Press.

CONVERSION OF FRANC

Paris, Feb. 1.—Leading nationalised and private banks were working hard behind closed doors today to prepare for an invasion of customers who have only Monday and Tuesday in which to hand in their 5,000 franc notes, now declared illegal tender.

One bank official thought that if the operation was not finished on Tuesday the Finance Ministry would have to grant an extension. "There were still no details today as to how or when the repayment would begin."

It is understood that a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday will discuss the repayment to holders of small sums.—Reuter.

Indo-Chinese Hold In Marseilles

Marseilles, Feb. 1.—The police today confined about 2,000 Indo-Chinese workers to their camp at Mazargues, outside the city, to prevent any disturbance during a visit of the French Minister of Ex-Servicemen's Affairs, M. Francois Mitterand.

The Indo-Chinese had planned a demonstration to protest against the arrest last week of Tran Ngue Danh, leader of the Indo-Chinese autonomous delegation in Paris, for alleged acts against the integrity of France.—Reuter.

New Currency For United States

BILL BEFORE CONGRESS

Washington, Feb. 1.—Representative Frank L. Sundstrom, New Jersey Republican, proposed today a totally new issue of United States currency, to "smoke out" foreign hoarders of American dollars.

DECREASE IN WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION

Lake Success, Feb. 1.—The total world food production fell seven percent in 1947-48 as compared with prewar, but the population increased by 200,000,000, a United Nations Economic and Social Council report said today.

The general world production two years after the end of the war was also said to be less than years ago.

The greatest reductions in food crop production occurred in the regions which had large food deficits even before the war. The import needs of those regions had, therefore, risen sharply.

Though production in the world's food exporting countries had greatly increased, large part of the additional output were being consumed domestically.

The result was that some countries now consumed 30 percent less food per head than before the war, while others consumed as much as 15 percent more.

The lack of economic balance in the world was manifest, not only in shortages of supply in several countries, the report claimed, but in international transactions, it was reflected in "unprecedented deficits in the foreign transactions of most countries."

The report contended it was essential that national and international action be considered now, when the levels of employment are high in almost all the world, to ensure that full employment is maintained if it should prove that the factors underlying the high levels of economic activity are not permanent.—Reuter.

OSCAR SLATER DEAD

Ayr, Scotland, Feb. 1.—A Silesian named Oscar Slater died yesterday in the obscurity of the new generation that has forgotten one of the most celebrated murder cases in criminal history.

Slater, who was 75 years old, outlived the judge who sentenced him to hang 20 years ago for brutal murder on December 21, 1903, of 82-year-old Marion Gilchrist in Glasgow. He also outlived Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who sought for 15 years to prove that Slater was innocent and finally succeeded.

But Slater spent 18 years in Peterhead Prison "eating his heart out," Sir Conan Doyle said, on the evidence of a witness who identified him as the man she saw coming from Miss Gilchrist's apartment. Slater's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

Sir Conan's persistence that the witness was intimidated finally won Slater's release in 1926. Two years later investigation was ordered and the Scottish Court of Criminal Appeal set aside the conviction.

In Parliament, Sir Ramsey MacDonald said of the case: "It fills me with horror."

The Government gave Slater £10,000 for his wrongful imprisonment.

One of the neighbours around his four-room bungalow knew who Slater was when he died.—United Press.

Odom All Set For China

Oklahoma City, Feb. 1.—Wearing a broad grin, betraying tremendous self-confidence, Bill Odom, 28, climbed into his self-converted B-24 navy bomber and said he still plans to be in China before Valentine's Day.

He said he would be leaving San Francisco in 10 days and ought to be in Western China in another four days.

Odom's plane, "The Explorer," was purchased and converted at the Altus army air base.

From Dayton, Ohio, Odom and copilot Carroll Sale will pick up some instruments from the U.S. Air Force and 10 passengers for the China jaunt.

The party will attempt to measure the height of the Anno Machene Peak in Western China, reported to be higher than Mount Everest.—United Press.

Americans holding the present dollars simply would turn them in for new ones of equal value under Sundstrom's plan. However, it would aid the European recovery programme, said aides of the New Jersey Congressman, by making foreign hoarders exchange their dollars for currencies of their own countries.

Sundstrom's bill is due for introduction in the House of Representatives tomorrow. He is a member of the Banking Committee.

"The measure would direct the Treasury to call in all present currency and 'give new currency equal in exchange therefore.'"

Hoarded Abroad

Sundstrom said US\$28,567,000,000 in United States currency was outstanding as of September 1947, and declared:

"No one knows how much of this amount is hoarded abroad by individuals and private foreign business interests. Competent authorities estimate it runs into billions of dollars."

Under Sundstrom's plan, foreign holders of American money would be required to turn it in to the government of their own country within a certain time limit in exchange, they would receive the equivalent in the currency of their country. These countries then would exchange the old dollars for new ones.

"This would give American dollars to foreign countries which are badly in need of dollars to buy American goods and help them along the road to recovery," Sundstrom explained.

Huge Sum Saved

"And this, in turn, would save the United States government a huge sum of money which would otherwise be required for European relief," Sundstrom said. Incidental benefits of his plan would include "destruction of black markets" and a closer check on the wealth of tax evaders who do business in cash rather than keep books.—Associated Press.

Travel Ban To Switzerland To Be Lifted

London, Feb. 1.—It was believed in responsible circles in London today that the ban on Britons spending their holidays in Switzerland would be lifted on or about May 1 as a result of the Anglo-Swiss trade talks which were successfully concluded last week.

An official communique on the talks is to be issued simultaneously in London and Bern tomorrow, and it is taken for granted that this point will be included.

It implies that Switzerland has been brought within the scope of Mr. Ernest Bevin's recent announcement that a resumption of foreign travel would be allowed to countries where arrangements had been made to prevent a drain on Britain's gold or hard currency reserves.

The sum permitted to be taken abroad annually would be limited to £35 for adults and £25 for children, the date of May 1 has already been discussed as the earliest probable date for the relaxing of the general travel ban, and it was believed today that it would be the actual date.

The arrangements with Switzerland will equally apply to all the other countries concerned. Those originally mentioned were France, Holland and Norway.

New French Currency

France's new currency measures have complicated the case, but the highest London authority has stated that it is still hoped to make the necessary arrangements.

Switzerland raised the point that her exclusion from the arrangements would violate the most-favoured-nation clause. Now that it has been conceded to Switzerland, any other country could of course raise the same point. Britain has no intention or desire to discriminate, always excepting the overriding need to protect her reserves.

The resumption of travel to Switzerland further implies that necessary arrangements have been made to rectify the trade imbalance between Switzerland and the overseas sterling area.

Britain had herself a favourable balance with Switzerland throughout last year and could have afforded to allow travel. What upset the situation was the heavy deficit of the overseas sterling area with Switzerland.—Reuter.

Fifth Anniversary Of Stalingrad

Moscow, Feb. 1.—The Soviet Union today celebrated the fifth anniversary of final victory over the 330,000 strong German Army trapped at Stalingrad.—Reuter.



"Do you have a credit plan?"

WORLD SPORT ROUND-UP:

Shooting Accident At Winter Olympic Games

St. Moritz, Feb. 1.—A Swiss policeman was shot in the leg, and Major Maurice Willoughby, of the Highland Light Infantry, a member of the British military team, narrowly escaped injury when a Swedish competitor in the Winter Olympics pistol shooting event loosed off a shot by mistake when he was turning away from the range.

The policeman was taken away to hospital. Major Willoughby missed his next three shots and finished last in the event, which was the second of the Pentathlon series.

Scandinavia took the chief honours today. Reidar Liskov, a 27-year-old country postman, captured the second speed skating gold medal for Norway by winning the 5,000 metres race in eight minutes, 29.4 seconds. Sweden supplied the first four in the pistol shooting and occupied the first four places at the end of the second event in the military Pentathlon.

Finland took the first two places in the Nordic combination—cross country skiing and jumping—the winner being Heikki Haasu, with 448.2 points.

The ice hockey tournament, which is still the subject of dispute with the International Olympic Committee banning it from the Olympics and the International Hockey Federation still considering it as an Olympic event, provided no surprises.

Canada beat Great Britain three to nil, United States beat Italy 31 goals to one, Switzerland beat Austria 11 to two, and Czechoslovakia beat Poland 13 goals to one.—Reuter.

Labour Party To Boycott Hague Parley

London, Feb. 1.—The National Executive of the Labour Party has decided to boycott the conference on European unity which it is proposed to hold at the Hague early in May, informed quarters here stated today.

Mr. Morgan Phillips, general secretary of the Labour Party, today declined either to confirm or deny the report.

The French Socialist Party, it is thought here, may align itself with the British Labour Party in declining to take part in the meeting. The Labour Party decision is thought to be based on:

1. The lack of faith that an organisation deriving its main inspiration from the Conservative Leader, Mr. Winston Churchill, is likely to take for European unity.

2. That Western European unity must be conceived as a road leading to European unity as a whole.

The development affirms the decision a year ago that Labour Party members should withhold their support from Mr. Churchill's United European Committee. According to influential Labour quarters, the decision to stay away from the Hague conference is not a ban in the sense that Labour bans, for instance, association with any Communist activity.

"What we do in a case like this," one authority explained, "is to refuse to go ourselves and to suggest to our members—whether in Parliament or out of it—that it is not desirable to make propaganda through such a conference."—Reuter.

U.S. ARMY KEEPS SURPLUS

Washington, Feb. 1.—The U. S. Army is going to keep a lot of ammunition it had planned to let go as surplus.

John R. Steelman, assistant to President Truman, said today the Army's estimate of steel and iron scrap it could provide industry through demilitarisation of surplus ammunition has been cut in half.

Steelman said this resulted from a re-evaluation of Army stockpile needs. He added that whatever is "reclassified as non-surplus will be maintained as a national asset in the ammunition stockpile."—Associated Press.

Persia Seeking U.S. Loan

Teheran, Feb. 1.—The Persian Government today asked Parliament for authority to contract a United States loan to buy \$10,000,000 worth of United States arms and ammunition.

The bill was submitted for study by a special parliamentary committee.—Reuter.

Iraqi Censorship Lifted

Baghdad, Feb. 1.—The Iraqi Cabinet tonight lifted the censorship in the national press and foreign correspondence.

Fifteen papers suspended by the previous Cabinet were freed, and also freedom of the press was announced.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the Ordinary Mail. Mail close before 6 a.m. Registered and Parcel will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2
Closing Times By Air
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Luchow, Kwantung, Hainan, and Swatow, 3:30 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 2 p.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 2 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 4 p.m.
Japan (Ordinary letters & cards only) (Sea) 2 p.m.
Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
Closing Times By Air
Amoy, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9:30 a.m. (ord.).
Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg.), 9:30 a.m. (ord.).
Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Lahore, Cairo, Nairobi, Johannesburg, Durban, Mombasa, Aden, Suez, Alexandria, and London (Kowloon C.P.O.) 3 p.m.
(G.P.O.) 3:30 p.m.
Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, and Swatow, 3:30 p.m.
Closing Times By Sea & Train
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 8 a.m.
Bangkok (Sea) 10 a.m.
Macao (Sea) 10 a.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 10 a.m.
Japan (Ordinary letters & cards only) (Sea) 10 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin & Shekki (Sea) 2 p.m.
Amoy (Sea) 2 p.m.

Soviet Paper's Attack

Moscow, Feb. 1.—The Soviet-licensed newspaper, Tsapliche Rukhscha, today bitterly criticised the International Olympic Committee's decision to cancel the ice hockey tournament at the Winter Olympic Games at the request of American teams.

"It can only be termed a deliberate mockery of the Olympic idea to cancel ice hockey play under the pressure of two gangs of trans-Atlantic businessmen involved for months in the dispute over eligibility," the paper says.—Reuter.

New York, Feb. 1.—Gilbert Dadds, 20-year-old Boston athlete, who is also an ordained minister, broke his own world indoor mile record last night by winning the Wannamaker mile at the Madison Square Garden in four minutes, 5.3 seconds.

The previous mark was four minutes, 6.4 seconds, set in 1944. The new figure also equals the American outdoor record set by Sweden's Gundar Hago, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, in July, 1943.

INDOOR MILE MARK

Dadds sprang the five rivals, who represented the best in American indoor mile running, over the 160 yards boarded track when he finished.

Glenn Cunningham, in a paced run, once did the indoor mile in four minutes 4.4 seconds.—Reuter.

ARCHERY RECORDS

Copenhagen, Feb. 1.—Two world records were broken in the International Archery Tournament, which ended here today.

Mrs. Burn, the British champion, and Miss Edith Rosengren, of Denmark, both beat the women's record of 1,083 points with 1,136 and 1,112 points respectively, while Hans Deutgen, of Sweden, beat the men's record of 1,396 points with 1,442 points, while Einar, of Denmark, scored 1,340 points.—Reuter.

DUTCH TABLE TENNIS

The Hague, Feb. 1.—The concluding stages of the Dutch open table tennis championships had strong foreign challenge, especially from Czechoslovakia, who won the first final—the women's doubles—when Depetrisova and Furstova beat their compatriots Zelenkova and Vanova 24-22, 21-11, 10-21, 21-10.

In the semi-finals, the winners beat the Belgians, Detourney and Roland, 21-17, 21-9, 21-10, while Zelenkova and Vanova beat Kettnerova of Czechoslovakia, and De Zeeuw, of Holland, 21-14, 21-10, 21-13.

In the ladies' singles semi-finals, Kettnerova beat Zelenkova 15-21, 19-21, 22-20, 21-13, 21-0, while Furstova beat Depetrisova 21-14, 21-11 and 21-10.—Reuter.

Detailed Plan For National Lottery

London, Feb. 1.—A detailed plan for a £2,000,000-000 state lottery to reduce Britain's income tax and the national debt has been submitted to the Government and Members of Parliament.

Chief sponsor is Maj. Dennis Eric Smith, banker and managing director of a London discount house. His associates include E. P. Smith, Conservative Member of Parliament for Ashford, Kent, and Godfrey Butler, brother of the Earl of Carrick.

Announcement of the lottery plan aroused widespread interest, but it appeared unlikely that the government would approve it.

The sponsors suggest that 2,000,000 one-pound tickets be offered for sale through post offices, other government departments, banks, insurance companies, stockbrokers and other approved institutions to buyers anywhere in the world.

The £2,000,000,000 proceeds would then be apportioned as follows: £1,000,000,000 in prizes; £500,000,000 to the state, comprising £500,000,000 for the reduction of the national debt, £300,000,000 towards reduction of the present income tax of nine shillings in the pound, £100,000,000 for the purchase of more food from the Empire, £45,000,000 to aid the elderly and the ill and £5,000,000 for medical research.

£50,000,000 for expenses, comprising £20,000,000 in sales commissions and £30,000,000 for organisation.

The sponsors make no specific proposals on the amount of the individual prizes, but suggest there should be 100 first prizes, 100 second prizes, 200 third prizes and so on down to 1,000,000 tenth prizes.

They said the amount diverted to the income tax alone would enable its reduction by two shillings sixpence or three shillings on every pound.

The lottery should be held once a year for three or four years with the provision that it must be sanctioned each year by Parliament, they said.

Britain has had state lotteries off and on for almost 500 years, the last on October 18, 1826. The first was floated by Queen Elizabeth to obtain funds to improve Britain's harbours and for other public works. The first prize was listed as £3,000 in cash, several hundred pounds in silver and gold plate and "good tapissarie meels for hangings and other covertures and certain sorts of good linen cloth."

Subsequent state lotteries were held to raise funds for the colony of Virginia to help finance the war against France, to help build Westminster Bridge across the Thames, and in 1757 for the personal enrichment of the then King George. Prizes ranged up to £30,000.—United Press.

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HONGKONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

Urgent Notice

In order to serve notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held at an early date, will all prewar members desirous of resuming membership please send a bit notifying their name, address and motor car or cycle registration number to:—

Mr T. E. JACKSON,
Assistant Director of Marine,
Harbour Office.

Note The new subscription fees will be decided at the Annual General Meeting of Members.

Motorists wishing to join the Association may obtain a form from any member of the Interim Committee or from the address above.

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Hon. Treasurers
Low, Bingham & Matthews
Mercantile Bank Bldg.

BBC PROGRAMME

Transmissions in the BBC General Overseas Service which may be heard in Hongkong this evening are:

GMT 10.00.—World of work dance music (gramophone records). 10.20.—Music while you work. 10.30.—The news. 11.10.—Home news from Britain. 11.15.—Forces' favourites. 12.00.—From today's papers. 12.10.—Interlude. 12.15.—Sporting record. 12.45.—Albert Sandler Trio. 13.00.—The news. 13.10.—Programme announcements. 13.15.—Music in miniature. 13.45.—The air to-day. 14.00.—Radio newscast. 14.15.—Merry-go-round. 15.15.—Programme announcements. 15.20.—Interlude. 15.30.—Victor Silvester and His Orchestra. 15.45.—London Relay. 16.00.—The news. 16.10.—News analysis. 16.15.—The University Programme. 16.20.—Introductory talk by Professor B. H. H. Evans. "Literary Studies," by Professor Bonamy Dobree. 16.35.—Gramophone records. 16.45.—Production prospect. A talk by William Holt. 17.00.—Big Ben. Radio newscast. 17.15.—Close down.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers
1. Three; male, female and neuter.
2. Major Arthur W. Wermuth. 4. The principal routes across the North Atlantic and North Pacific Oceans.
6. At the equator.

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